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Next stop: playoffs

Haliburton County Huskies players celebrate after their third goal by #19 Lucas Stevenson with assists by #8 Nicholas Dowling and #7 Sam Solarino during their final game of the regular season against the North York Rangers on Saturday, Mar. 4. Read more on page 9. /TIM YANO Special to the Echo

Dysart council supports boat races, despite last year's noise complaints

JAMES MATTHEWS

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Supporters of the powerboat races on Head Lake implored Dysart council not to let a handful of detractors ruin the summer fun for everyone.

Outboard powerboat races hosted by the Toronto Outboard Racing Club will return Aug. 19 and 20. Spectators and racers will converge at Head Lake Park throughout the weekend.

On the heels of last August's races, some residents expressed concerns to the previous Dysart town council about excessive noise and traffic congestion. It was suggested the township take a hard look at allowing the races this year.

There's a charging station for electric vehicles that could be impacted by boat race fans filling the parking lot. And patrons of a nearby restaurant often use the parking lot.

Mayor Murray Fearrey said the boat races are important to the community. The parking lot is a public space

and not reserved for the sole use of the restaurant and its patrons.

"I'm not sure what motivated the last council," he said. "I hope it wasn't political, but it may have been."

Alan Gordon, one of the race organizers, said noise is unavoidable, given the nature of the sport. The races are concentrated to one area and much of the noisier activity is scheduled for before 5 p.m.

"For a couple days of the summer, I don't think it's

see RACES page 2

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Races support health services in the Highlands, say organizers

from page 1

the end of the world," he said.

Barb Hammond, another of the local race weekend organizers, said parking is indeed a challenge.

"I don't know how we could fence off that area and have cars come in to use that charging station," she said. "I just don't know if there's the room for it. But if we have to do it, I guess we would just figure it out somehow."

Gordon owns RPM Marinas and is another organizer of the races. To compensate for the park's boat launch being monopolized by racers, he opens his business' boat ramp to the public.

He said the exposure Haliburton County gets from the weekend events is exceptional branding for the region.

"It really gives us exposure as a community to outside people," Gordon said. "I think that's important to the community in terms of bringing money into the economy."

That influx of cash is beneficial in more ways than the obvious.

Judith Skinner, another of the organizers, said local health care facilities benefit from the races. Local businesses donate money to the hospital. The races bring people to the area who spend money at those businesses, she said.

"Many of us have used that hospital ... and we're so grateful that they have had the equipment we needed to stay alive," she said.

Gordon said boating is a big sport that covers everything from non-motorized watercraft to 27-foot pontoon boats. Such a varied watersport lends the county an identity.

"It's a good thing," he said. "It is very much a part of what we are as a county."

Councillor Nancy Wood Roberts said her only concern about every event, not only the boat races, is the number of vehicles that park on Highland Street on the lake side. Those vehicles narrow the thoroughfare.

"You sometimes can't drive your car through there, let alone a fire truck or ambulance," she said.

Hammond said snow fencing was put up years ago.

Coun. Pat Casey suggested opening an accessory route around Glebe Park.

"I wonder if that was a consideration ... just for EMS vehicles to have access to that at any point during the summer time when congestion is high," Casey said.



Highlands' racer Wesley Hammond, far left, races in the C-stock hydroclass, which included top speeds on the front stretch of 120 kilometres per hour at the 6th annual RPM Outboard Power Boat Races on Saturday, Aug. 20, 2022 on Head Lake in Haliburton. /FILE



The checkered flag is held up, alerting racers their race is over at the 6th annual RPM Outboard Power Boat Races.

New initiative aims to cut down food waste across the county

EMILY STONEHOUSE

Staff Reporter

The County of Haliburton is running a pilot FoodCycler program in an attempt to mitigate household waste across the municipalities.

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In recent history, Minden Hills, Dysart, and Algonquin Highlands each participated in individual FoodCycler programs, and the results were favourable. "We believe offering it at a county level will entice more people to participate," said Corey McKay, the climate change coordinator for the county.

FoodCyclers are about the size of a bread maker, and can fit on the average kitchen countertop. The county is offering two slightly different sizes; one for a family of one to two, and another that would be used more effectively as a family of three or more. The processor is able to break down the majority of food scraps, resulting in a volume reduction of over 90 per cent.

The previously wet and smelly food is transformed into dry, sterile, and odorless fertilizer that can be saved and used in gardens and plants.

"We are trying to extend the lives of our landfills, reduce greenhouse gasses, and offer an alternative to traditional composting," said McKay. She noted that while she hopes county residents continue traditional composting as well, the FoodCycler would offer some different options for what that looks like, as there are very few foods that the FoodCycler can not break down.

The units typically market at \$500 for the smaller size, and \$800 for the larger one, yet McKay shared that the county will be subsidizing a chunk of the cost. They have also partnered with Food Cycle Canada to offset the price point further based on grants the organization has received. The bottom line for the units will be \$100 for the small size and \$200 for the larger one. Once the trial period is done, participants in the study can keep the units for future usage.

"All we ask from participants is that they keep track of how often they use them over a 12 week period," said McKay. "We will also be sharing a quick survey to participants so we can understand how much food waste a household is making."

McKay noted that the Dysart municipality spoke about

their pilot FoodCycler program at the Rural Ontario Municipal Association at the end of January, and she believed the initiative put the region on the map as an innovative environmental space.

Potential participants can learn more about the FoodCycler program, as well as apply to receive a unit during the trial period by visiting www.haliburtoncounty.ca and heading to the climate change section of the website. County residents are welcome to apply any time before March 17, at which point county staff will confirm the number of units available, and whether participants are successful in their application. If you have any questions, you can contact McKay at 705-286-1333 ext. 242 or foodcycler@haliburtoncounty.ca.



Haliburton County's FoodCycler pilot program has offered 500 FoodCycler units to residents in Haliburton County to compost food waste. /Submitted

Temporary bridge installed, weight limit removed on Koshlong Lake Road

VIVIAN COLLINGS

Editor

The swift installation of a temporary bridge across the Burnt River on Koshlong Lake Road came as a relief to property owners and Dysart staff on Thursday, Feb. 16.

The process, which completely closed the road to all traffic, took only 11 hours to complete instead of the estimated 13.

A weight limit of seven tonnes was put in place by Dysart staff in November 2022 following concern about a broken timber girder on the 60-year-old bridge.

During Dysart's regular council meeting on Jan. 24, some Koshlong Lake Road residents expressed concern over the bridge's weight limit, worrying that services wouldn't be able to access the road should an emergency occur.

Less than a month later, a temporary bridge was ready to be placed overtop of the existing structure.

The installation went better than I anticipated," said Dysart's public works director Rob Camelon. "There are no further repairs required to the original bridge, and the 'new' bridge will simply stay in place until engineering is completed on a full replacement of the old structure."

The load limit has been removed as well as associated signage.

Staff did not provide a date for structural repairs to be executed on the original bridge, but "the survey and geotechnical field work have been completed," said Camelon.

Ken Hill is a property owner on Koshlong Lake and had expressed his worries about the previous weight limit to coun-

cil. He is pleased with the municipality's hastened solution of the installation of a new one-lane bridge.

"The weight restrictions have been removed, I understand as well that it's narrower, but even though the old bridge was classified as a two-lane bridge, it never functioned as a two-lane bridge. People always had to wait and go over one at a time, so I don't think the width of the bridge makes a practical difference to how it has been used and how it will be used," Hill said.

He said other residents he's been in correspondence with are also glad to see the weight limit removed, but many hope for more communication between Dysart and property owners in the future.

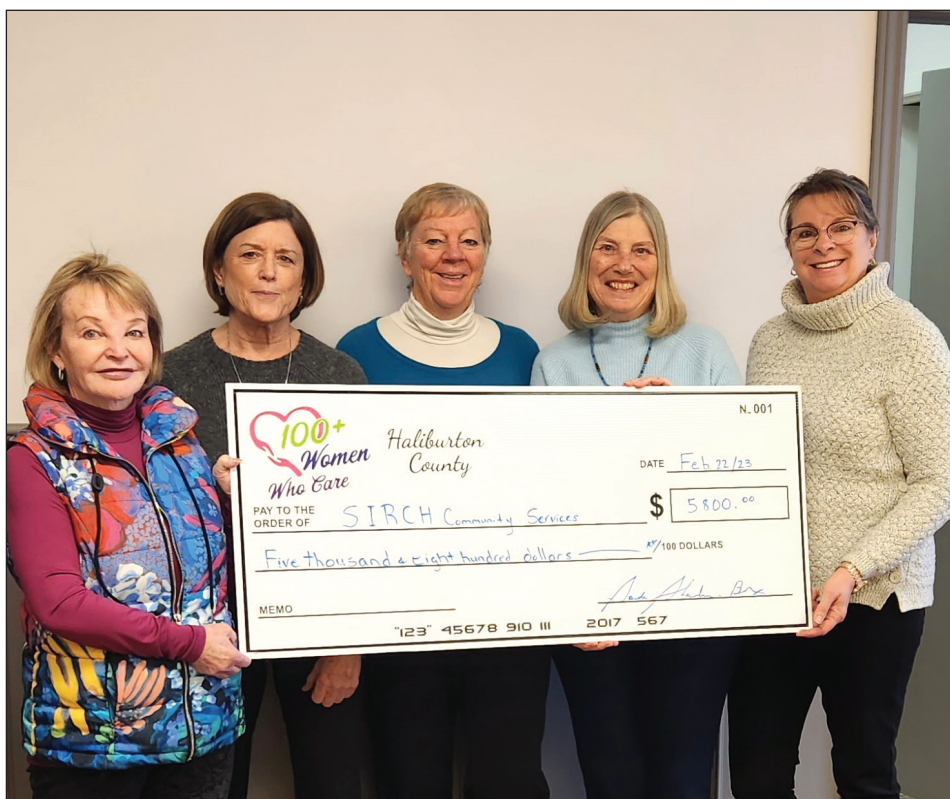
"The staff at the municipality were very responsive when we learned of the problem and were making inquiries," he said. "The municipality should be commended for moving promptly to install that bridge when the time came to do it, but I guess one of the concerns that I would still have in general is that there wasn't much communication to the residents or property owners when the problem became apparent to the municipality."

The Koshlong Lake property owner said he expects full repairs of the bridge underneath will likely take a few years, but he hopes for owners to be consulted once construction for a long-term solution is ready to happen.

"I think another good thing about this resolution is that the temporary bridge can be used in other locations, and I understand that there are other bridges within the municipality that this can be used at when it's no longer needed at Koshlong Lake Road," Hill said.



A temporary bridge was installed overtop of the existing damaged bridge across the Burnt River on Koshlong Lake Road in February. /VIVIAN COLLINGS Staff



SIRCH selected for 100 Women Who Care donation

On Feb. 15, the 100 Women Who Care Haliburton group voted to choose a charity to donate to. This was done by selecting three nominated charities, then having our members vote to select a winner. This time, the winner was SIRCH. On Feb. 22, a cheque for \$5,800 was presented to SIRCH. From left, Gena Robertson and Linda Kay of SIRCH are with Pat Bradley, Tina Palmer and Sandra Slauenwhite-Box of 100 Women Who Care Haliburton. Anyone who is interested in joining the group should visit <https://100wwchaliburton.wixsite.com/mysite/> learn-more and download a membership form. /photo submitted

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Conservation Initiative – The Highlands Corridor

RICK WHITTEKER

Special to the Echo

The buzz of a full house at the Fish Hatchery on Friday, Mar. 3 greeted the presenters of the Haliburton Highlands Land Trust (HHLT) showcasing their new conservation initiative called the Highlands Corridor.

The corridor is a swath of land that runs across southern edge of the Canadian Shield in southern Haliburton County. Linking up three provincial parks, from Silent Lake in the east to Kawartha Highlands in the south and Queen Elizabeth 11 in the west, this area has been identified as a significant wildlife corridor covering over 100,000 hectares of unceded crown land, municipal and private land.

The presentation began with Shelley Hunt, Chair of the Executive Committee of the HHLT giving an overview of the organization including introducing some board members and past Chair, Sheila Ziman.

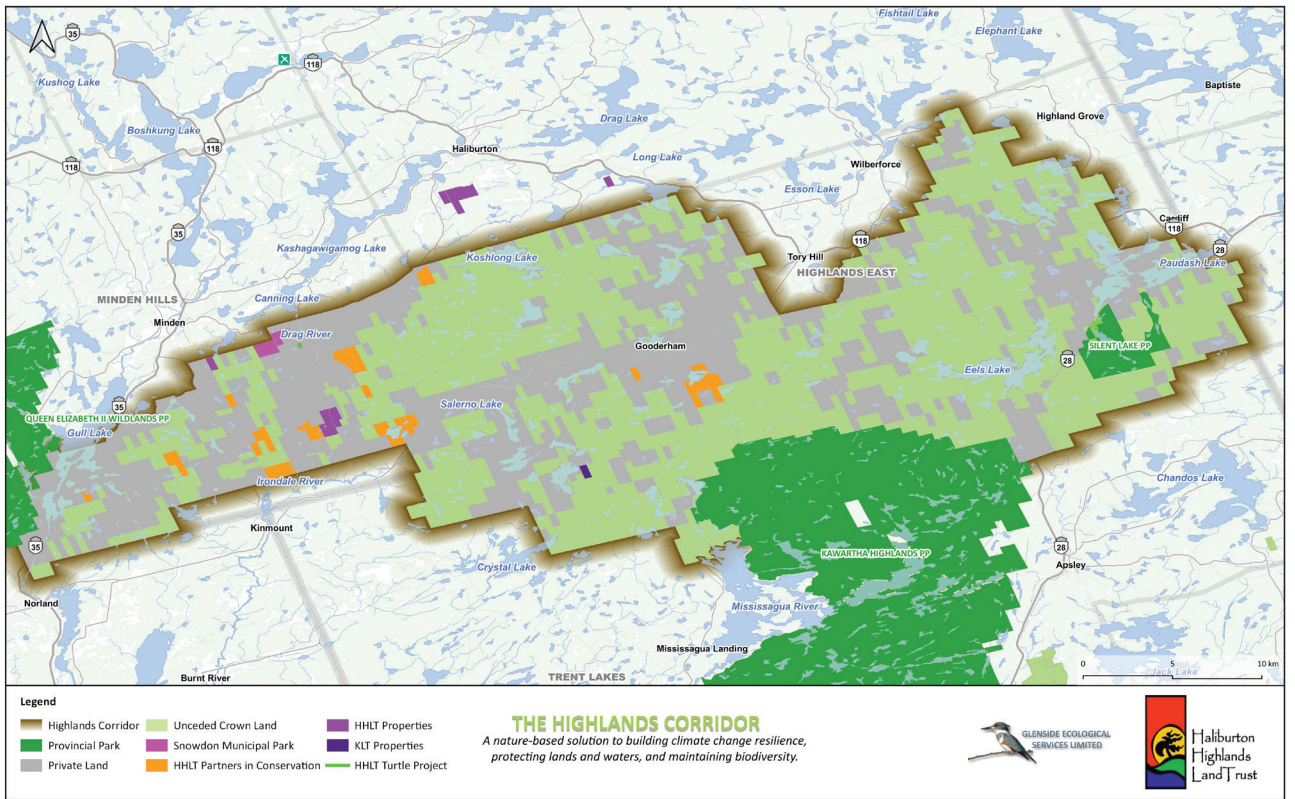
Hunt pointed out that when people think of the Land Trust, they recognize an organization that acquires public land for conservation, Barnum Creek Nature Reserve, Dahl Forest and Norah's Island as examples.

However, Hunt reminded the audience of some of the other mandates of the HHLT including community engagement through outreach and education programs, like the popular Discovery Days program.

The HHLT also gathers data on the landscapes and ecosystems of Haliburton County. Government grants have allowed the HHLT to do field research on species at risk (SAR), wetland assessment and other projects including the highly successful Turtle Mortality Mitigation Project that received national and international attention.

The genesis of The Highlands Corridor conservation initiative came from the field research done by the Land Trust.

Speaking about the project was Paul Heaven from Glenside Ecological Services. Heaven, who has coordi-



For more information on The Highlands Corridor, see locally produced video at www.youtube.com/watch?v=WyExx2-ZnPI&list=PL3s or the Land Trust website at www.haliburtonlandtrust.ca. /Submitted by Paul Heaven

nated much of the HHLT research related to the corridor, presented on its ecological significance. The corridor is 71 per cent forest of which 75 per cent is older forests. 17.9 per cent of the corridor is classified as wetland, a very high percentage for this ecoregion according to Heaven.

The habitat in the corridor supports 35 federal and provincial species at risk, 21 provincially significant and 38 local rare species. Conservation of the habitats that support these species is an important step to maintaining the region's biodiversity.

The Land Trust also envisions this corridor as a nature-based strategy to mitigate the effects of climate change.

Forests store carbon and supply life supporting oxygen. Wetlands both store carbon and mitigate flooding, an all-too-common consequence of extreme weather events. Heaven explained that wetlands, especially those with sphagnum moss, act like sponges, swelling and absorbing excessive water from spring runoff and storms, discharging it to groundwater and slowly releasing water to surrounding environments.

Regarding wetland carbon storage, Heaven validated this point by showing the audience a core sample of dark brown peat from a local wetland. Looking like a short, fat cigar, this peat is 100 per cent carbon stored from years of plant matter dying and slowly decomposing in bogs and fens.

Collaboration is important to any land conservation initiative, and to that point, five landowners adjacent to crown land and provincially significant wetlands have joined the HHLT's Partners in Conservation program. Program participants receive a complete forest and wetland species inventory on their property. Management tools are made available to the landowner to help assist in their land stewardship plans.

The Haliburton Highlands Land Trust believes that The Highlands Corridor would best fit as a Conservation Reserve under the provisions of the provincial Crown land use designation. The conservation designation is being sought for the 60,000 hectares of unceded crown land only, not for the private or municipal land in the corridor.

Heaven commented that The Highlands Corridor is an opportunity to make a small contribution to the global goal of conserving 30 per cent of Earth's land and ocean environments by 2030. Ontario has protection in place for only 10.7 per cent of its land, "so we have a long way to go to meet this goal," says Heaven.

A delegation will head to Queen's Park on May 4 to present their initiative to provincial ministers. Organized by Laurie Scott, MPP for Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock, The Highlands Corridor appears like a natural way to support biodiversity, improve climate change resilience, and conserve the ecosystems we depend on and enjoy in the Haliburton Highlands.



Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock MPP Laurie Scott speaks about the \$9,100 Ontario Trillium Foundation grant allowing for the Highlands Corridor Haliburton Highlands Land Trust initiative to take place. /VIVIAN COLLINGS Staff



Chair of Haliburton Highlands Land Trust Shelley Hunt thanks the crowd at the end of the Highlands Corridor presentation.



Biologist Paul Heaven holds up a piece of carbon-rich soil extracted from a local wetland.



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What to do in the Highlands on March Break

VIVIAN COLLINGS

Editor

Boredom won't be in your family's vocabulary this March Break in the Highlands.

There's no shortage of exciting events and fun activities for all ages in the county during Trillium Lakelands District School Board's break from classes from Monday, Mar. 13 to Friday, Mar. 17.

Starting with the Haliburton County Public Library, they'll have both registered and drop-in fun family events throughout the entire week at the Dysart, Wilberforce, Stanhope, Highland Grove, and Minden branches.

From storytimes to origami making, checking out tech toys to making art, and creating electrical circuits to using a green screen to design stop motion films, there's truly something for everyone.

For HCPL's full schedule and event

details, visit www.haliburtonlibrary.ca/Programs-Events.

Over in West Guilford, Abbey Gardens is hosting three children's programs catering to different age ranges.

The first is Fresh Air Tykes, a two-day nature-based program for children ages 5 and 6 on the Tuesday and Wednesday of March Break.

The second is their Outdoor Kids program on the Thursday and Friday.

"Our days will be filled with nature-based activities, stories, hikes, outdoor skills, crafts, and a meet and greet with our ponies," said Abbey Gardens education coordinator Irene Heaven.

There third event is for youth ages 10 to 14 to become familiar with the Gardens' resident ponies at an on-the-ground horse camp on Wednesday.

"We will have an indoor base, because you just never know what the March weather will be like, but we will be venturing outside a lot to explore," said Heaven.



Abbey Gardens has three children's programs running during March Break along with plenty of others throughout the County. /Submitted

Sleeping in cars for a cause

EMILY STONEHOUSE

Staff Reporter

Places for People will once again be hosting their annual Sleeping in Cars event to raise awareness about the lack of affordable housing in Haliburton County. On March 24, all are invited to participate in the 12-hour fundraiser, which will focus on conversations around what types of housing are needed in the community. "You can sleep in your car, your tent, your couch, whatever you want," shared Nataly Mylan, an organizer for the event.

Sleeping in Cars has happened sporadically over the years, and like many things, was interrupted due to the COVID-19 pandemic that hit in 2020. Mylan noted that the nature of affordable housing has changed since the events were held in the early years. "We really want to start shifting the conversation about housing and what that means," she told the Times. "There are a lot of misconceptions about who needs housing at this time."

Places for People is a grassroots, non-profit organization, which focuses on establishing housing for those in need across the county. The organization relies solely on fundraising and donations to make this happen. Currently, the group manages and maintains seven units across the area, and hopes to expand to more as the need continues to grow.

"We are really looking to push forward with our builds," said Mylan, "so it's really important for us to have a good donor base."

According to Mylan, the nature of those renting has shifted in recent years. It's now folks who have been working their whole lives, and are now in a place where there is nowhere to purchase or rent in the region.

She shared that she is also seeing a growing need from elderly renters, who are now "couch surfing" as they have nowhere else to go. "It's getting to a crisis point," said Mylan. "It really has changed."

Places for People recently acquired a unit in Carnarvon that had one rental option available, and the organization received over 48 applications for the single unit.

Mylan hopes that since housing was such a hot topic during the most recent local election, Places for People and Sleeping in Cars will receive support from each municipality. "I am really hoping to get some serious political support since it was such a big election item," she said. Support can come in the form of financial contributions, or even a presence at the upcoming event.

This year, Sleeping in Cars will be held in Head Lake Park. Mylan said there will be buskers and a roaring fire to keep participants toasty, as well as access to heated washroom facilities that can be used through the evening. She also noted that not everyone necessarily has to stay over, but all are welcome to participate, donate, and share their own housing experiences with the group.

"There are people here that just can't find housing no matter what. People in the service industry, construction, doctors, you name it, there are challenges now."

Mylan said that success would come in a twofold form, with fundraising on the forefront and networking close behind. She believes that starting these conversations and listening to the needs of the community would foster next steps for affordable housing in the area.

The event will take place on March 24 at 7 p.m., and will run until March 25 at 7 a.m. A pledge form can be found at www.placesforpeople.ca

To register for Abbey Gardens' March Break programs, visit abbeygardens.ca/programming-2/.

Heading back to Haliburton, families who register for the Haliburton Highlands Land Trust Speaking of Wildlife interactive presentation at the HHOA Fish Hatchery on Saturday, Mar. 18 will have the opportunity to meet Ontario wildlife up close from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. To purchase tickets, visit www.haliburtonlandtrust.ca/civcrm/?civiwp=CiviCRM&q=civcrm%2Fevent%2Finfo&reset=1&id=83.

Over at SIRCH Community Services, families can "drop in and hang out" on Tuesday, Mar. 14 from 1 to 4 p.m. for activities like colouring and puzzles. Their kid's experimental music event, Let's Jam!, will be held on Wednesday,

Mar. 15 from 3 to 4:30 p.m.

The Reform Studio at the Wellness Hub in Haliburton is hosting three Kids Move & Groove drop in sessions on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday of the break from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. The cost is \$10 per child at the door.

Yours Outdoors will have two Predator Prowls at Haliburton Forest and Wildlife Reserve. One is on Tuesday, Mar. 14 from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. and one is on Friday, Mar. 18 from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Finishing off a fun-filled week is a Razzamataz performance featuring Nhapi Tapi, a band from Zimbabwe, on Sunday, Mar. 19 at 2 p.m. at the Northern Lights Performing Arts. Visit myhaliburtonhighlands.com for up to date information on March Break programming in the area.

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Forever in our memories: Creighton Feir

Recognizing strong women

“A WOMAN WITH A voice is, by definition, a strong woman,” said Melinda Gates.

When the opportunity arose for the position of editor here at the *Echo*, I'll admit that I was hesitant to take it on.

I knew it was a hard job. I knew I would be challenged by different obstacles daily. I would have to be the coordinator of a pretty big project week after week. The responsibility of sharing the stories of the county would be on my shoulders.

This wasn't why I was apprehensive, though.

I had done hard things before. I love a challenge. I thrive when I get to be the organizer of big tasks and was usually the one that took charge of group projects in school. I trust my own ability.

My hesitation came from a different place; one of insecurity. Instead of doubting myself, I worried about other people doubting me.

Some of the thoughts I had were:

What if people see my photo or experience my gentle personality and decide not to take me seriously?

What if they think I'm just a girl who doesn't belong in a position of power?

What if my inevitable, human mistakes just confirm the doubts people have about me?

In the *Echo*, the *Times*, and *County Life* this week, all three editorials are about International Women's Day on Wednesday, Mar. 8, "a global day to recognize and celebrate women's and girls' social, economic, cultural, and political achievements," because women make up 50 per cent of the population, but only 35 per cent are employed in management positions in Canada.

In Emily Stonehouse's *County Life*

editorial this week, she also addressed the gender pay gap in Canada.

On average, women make 10 per cent less than men in this country for the same roles. This starts at the innocent age of 12.

Maybe it's from ever-present inequalities like this that cause women to doubt themselves.

Maybe it's from subtle comments from adults when we are impressionable children that make us believe our voices should be quieter; that we should be careful to have opinions.

Maybe it's from fearing for our safety by drawing any kind of attention to ourselves (most women I know are afraid to be alone in public).

It's probably a combination, but either way, the thoughts are there, and we should be taking every opportunity to combat them, and not only that, but we shouldn't let them get through to our little women; future women in power. Because no woman's life should be made more difficult in an unequal society with

untrue thoughts of inadequacy.

For me, I needed only to look at the lineage of other women in this role before me to be brave and say yes to the job offer.

When I think of Martha Perkins, Jenn Watt, and Sue Tiffin, I see strong, capable, intelligent, powerful women.

Their excellence in this role was what pushed me to take it on.

I took the job hoping that even one pair of little eyes might be seeing women throughout the paper and believing that they too can also take on a powerful position when they're grown, if they wish.

We still have so far to come for total gender equality, but we can start here and now by recognizing those strong women around us. And considering the quote at the beginning, we don't have far to look for those.



vivian collings

Editorial



Sunny signs of spring by Vivian Collings

When the eyes are heavy

IT HAD BEEN a long night. After shifting position over and over, Monika finally gave up and got out of bed. She didn't even want to look at the clock. She knew it would only depress her. As she grew older she started having so-called sleep issues. Sometimes she fell asleep quickly only to wake a few hours later, unable to return to dreamland. Other times, like tonight, she would rise and go into the kitchen, once her frustration became too much.

Her friends did their best to offer advice, since some of them were also struggling with nocturnal wakefulness. Don't watch a screen before bedtime; drink warm milk; go for a walk before retiring; read before going to bed. Well Monika had tried them all and more but with little success.

There was one piece of cherry pie left from the weekend, and it travelled with her into the den. As she sat on the couch with her snack, she looked out the window. A half moon streamed across the yard, casting fingers over the snow. It was a peaceful scene. Suddenly a shadow swooped past her line of vision, alighting on a high branch of the maple tree near the garage. Lucky owl, she thought. It was supposed to be awake and active at this time.

Maybe I should tell myself a story, she mused. Storytime at bedtime had been a long-standing practice in her childhood home. Sometimes a book was employed but often the speaker would tell a tale that was either an old favourite or made up on the spot. Monika's older sister usually read from a collection gathered together in a thick book almost too heavy for young Monika to lift. Her mother preferred the old favourites which she recited, faithful to all the details, over and over again. But Monika didn't mind the repetition as there was a comforting familiarity in the words, aided by the warmth of her mother's arm around her shoulders.

It was her father's bedtime sto-

ries that stood out in her memory even now, as she picked away at the cherry pie. He had been a big man and the bed squeaked and sagged as he stretched out beside her. No books were employed. Instead there were tales about a worm that lived in an apple, a lonely ghost knocking on bedroom windows and horses that could grow wings and fly over the farm fields. Sound effects, such as the crunching of a mouth eating apples, the tap on a window or the swoosh of wings overhead were all mesmerizing to the young Monika.

Now and then she'd briefly turn her attention away from the story to gaze up at the teller's face. Her older sister always looked intense, her mother a little distracted and her father's face often held a weary expression. But no matter the face, she never had the feeling the story was rushed, or boring to the speaker. Monika would snuggle down into the bed's soft warmth, feeling comforted and

important. In fact, aside from riding her pony, it was her favourite activity. Even better than ice cream for dessert.

Once in a while, if she'd had an exceptionally busy, active day, Monika might struggle to stay awake to the end of the story. When that happened, she'd awaken to find herself alone with the sun poking through the crack in her curtains, telling her she'd miss the ending once again. However that was fine with her because she knew she'd hear it again. Familiarity was part of story time's appeal. Even for a child, there were unpredictable events in life that could upset or puzzle. But story time reassured her. Without so many words, it reminded her that she was loved and her family would keep her safe.

Now putting the red-smudged plate in the sink, Monika had to decide her next step. Go back to bed or start a new mystery novel. Ah decisions, she thought as she picked up the book. Too bad there's no more cherry pie.

Down



sharon lynch

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points of view

Music to my ears

THIS MORNING I was reading an entertainment article about Shania Twain – and one thing she divulged in the interview gave me cause for joy and hope.

It turns out that in her song, *That Don't Impress Me Much*, Shania is considering replacing the line, "OK, so you're Brad Pitt" with "OK, so you're Channing Tatum."

She said Channing Tatum is probably more to her liking for that song now.

To be clear, that's not the part that made me happy.

What made me happy was that Shania is finally moving on and is open to new ideas.

And while I cheer and fully support her right to do so, I also can't help but think she is just making the same mistake twice – kind of like my mother did when she had my younger brother.

Let's be honest here. Channing Tatum is not all that different from Brad Pitt. They are both a type – you know, rich, movie-star good looks, sex symbol status.

Fawning over this type of person is so cliché that it is boring.

So, with all due respect Ms.

Twain, I think if you really want to revitalize the song, you need to go in a completely different direction. You need mention someone who is not rich, not handsome, and definitely not a sex symbol. And it wouldn't hurt if he was balding, aging, and short too. That's right. Surprise everyone!

That's why I am humbly offering up my name.

Shania, I know what you are thinking. No one knows you Steve Galea.

Yes, Shania, that's true. But, if

you think about it, that makes it a public relations coup.

My lack of importance will cause entertainment reporters to follow you around just so they could ask, "Who is Steve Galea?" Followed by, "Why on earth Steve Galea?"

This would then be followed by a slew of news stories that ask, "What exactly does Steve Galea have on Shania Twain?"

Admittedly, even after all these questions are answered, singing the line, "OK, so you're Steve Galea" will not exactly resonate with anyone.

But that is also a good reason to choose my name. You see, unlike Pitt or Tatum, I am the real thing. Someone who has never impressed anyone much.

And, hey, isn't what the song is all about?

Not to toot my own horn, but I have spent a lifetime, not impressing much. Moreover, I can't tell you how many times I have caused teachers, employers, my parents and friends to utter the phrase, "You are the least impressive person I know."

Trust me. This is my superpower.

In fact, I am so good at it that, should you used my name in the song, you could actually change the song's title to, *That Don't Impress Me At All*. And I think we can all agree that would give it a new life.

And just to drive the point home, I could dance in the video.

By now you are probably wondering why this is of any importance to me? You are probably asking yourself, what does Steve Galea get out of this?

Honestly, this is it is not about me.

It's about you, Ms. Twain.

It shows that you recognize that you were very, very wrong to be unimpressed by Brad Pitt and Channing Tatum. And it shows that you have grown by being unimpressed by me.

This will resonate, trust me.

People who know me will vouch for just how right you now are.

Then again, that probably won't impress you much either.



steve
galea

Loon Tales



pic of the past

This Alligator boat is believed to have belonged to the Malloy & Bryans Lumber Co. who had a large saw mill in Haliburton Village near the site of the present-day band shell. This photo dates to circa 1920. The unknown man is positioning a punt (a square ended relatively flat bottomed boat), perhaps to begin loading boards. /Submitted by the Haliburton Highlands Museum

Dig deeper to reduce stigma

You may have heard the word "stigma" used more lately in the press and in conversations about health and social issues. But what does the term really mean, and how can we challenge it in our everyday lives?

The dictionary definition of "stigma" describes it as set of negative and often unfair beliefs that a society or group of people have about something.

In his 2022 publication, *So you want to reduce stigma towards people who use drugs*, Dr. Scott Neufeld suggests we use more specific terms to describe how people experience stigma, such as discrimination, prejudice, stereotypes, or social exclusion.

He also urges us to investigate how these things are presenting in our community. Are there certain social groups who have been historically excluded or disproportionately impacted because of social and health policies? What are the reasons behind this? Are we allowing community members to speak up, or creating further barriers for people to access critical supports?

The term "stigma" is also often used in the context of youth mental health, neurodivergence, and disability. Many youth and caregivers experience stigma in the form of discrimination or social exclusion. Children's Mental Health Ontario (CMHO) describes several examples of stigma that youth and caregivers may experience, such as negative reactions to caregivers advocating for their children; criticism and bullying of children needing extra supports; playdate invitations not being reciprocated by other families, or pushback from work colleagues for needing to take more time off to troubleshoot problems or make appointments.

ments.

For some families these negative reactions are consistent occurrences, and constantly dealing with them can be exhausting. Solutions don't come easily, but CMHO recommends sharing your child or family's experience with those who can influence change in a confident and unapologetic way that says, "Everyone has their challenges—and this is ours. This is what we need or what would help."

Accessing peer support from other parents and working with daycares and school to develop an action plan can also go a long way towards making the situation manageable for youth and families.

But while focusing on individual attitudes and circumstances is important, collectively we must dig deeper and examine the root causes of stigma if we want to culturally re-frame the issue and realize meaningful policy change. Indeed, it is vital for community leaders and changemakers to understand that stigma is often a reflection of social, cultural, and systematic realities, and that we all have a role in learning about the past and talking about what can be done.

"With respect to substance abuse and mental health, whether we are living the experience in one role or another or not, all of us are at some points in time a bystander, an onlooker," said Alex Isbister, retired social worker. "We are/I am the context in which someone else may be suffering. We all can use reminders of respect and compassion, and of the privilege of being well."

Submitted by Point in Time Centre for Children, Youth and Parents

Letters to the Editor note: Submissions are subject to editing for newspaper style and punctuation.

Castle Antiques: A new home for Poquito Loco

VIVIAN COLLINGS

Editor

Local businesses supporting each other is part of the reason why Haliburton has such a vibrant, collaborative community. Castle Antiques is open again after closing for a week of renovations to accommodate a new permanent addition; Mexican restaurant Poquito Loco.

After four months of sharing the space on Friday nights for Tacos and Tunes, an event held at Castle Antiques featuring food from Poquito Loco and music by the Ya Babys, Claudette Pitre, co-owner of Poquito Loco and Anna Lowes, owner of Castle Antiques, discovered they wanted the partnership to be a permanent fixture.

"I got to a point where I needed to be somewhere. One night a week was fun, but it's hard to do just one night, and it just snowballed from there," Pitre said. "We are so grateful that Castle Antiques is sharing this space with us. It's just been so great. Local businesses supporting businesses is what it's all about."

With the fun and colourful Poquito Loco menu and food area added to the left side of the front counter at the cafe, the two businesses will be covering all the bases for customers.

"We're going to cut back on our wraps, so they're taking over that side of the menu, and then we can focus on the soups, salads, and savoury baked goods, so I think we're a nice mix," said Lowes. "Everything is made from scratch, on both sides. Everything is homemade, labour of love."

Pitre added that Poquito Loco now has a gluten free wrap and other gluten free and vegan options that cater to Castle's current customer base.

"It'll be nice because my regulars will be introduced to a different type of service and the other way around," Pitre said.

Part of the renovations were to rearrange the kitchen to allow for both restaurants to use the space without having to work around each other.

"It took a little bit of doing and figur-



Poquito Loco owner Claudette Pitre poses for a photo with her staff, Wesley Stoughton, left, Brooklyn Sidsworth, and Ella Carl for the return of Tacos and Tunes and their first night in their permanent spot in Castle Antiques on Friday, Mar. 3. /ADAM FRISK Special to the Echo

ing out how we could make it work, but we figured out a way. Even now, while [Pitre] is busy getting ready and training new staff and while we're still doing the lunch menu, there's more people in the kitchen now than there will be, and we're still making it work. We haven't had any collisions yet," laughed Lowes.

Tacos and Tunes on Friday, Mar. 3 kicked off Poquito Loco's new hours at the cafe.

Pitre expects to have seven or eight staff members in the summer and currently has four for the winter.

Poquito Loco will be open from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. from Monday to Thursday, 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. on Fridays, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturdays, and 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Sundays.



Poquito Loco's Wesley Stoughton was busy making a customer's order.



The Ya Babys perform at Castle Cafe and Antiques on Friday night.

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Note: Vendors who qualified in 2022 as a Preferred Vendor for Advertising and Marketing Communications Services will continue to be Preferred Vendors -- they do not need to respond to this posting (no need to re-qualify).



Before the puck drop, Huskies billet families for the 2022/2023 season were recognized and celebrated. /TIM YANO Special to the Echo

Huskies bring home a win at final game of regular season

VIVIAN COLLINGS

Editor

The Haliburton County Huskies finished strong in their final game of the regular season before playoffs against the North York Rangers, beating the team 6-3.

The first period of the game started slow with no goals for either team.

Just over three minutes into the second period, Huskies forward Luca Rea scored a shorthanded goal assisted

by Patrick Saini while the Rangers were a minute and a half into a two-minute power play.

Four more goals were scored by the Huskies in the second period by Will Gourgouvelis, Lucas Stevenson, Marco Iozzo, and Alex Cunningham.

With the Huskies in the lead by 5-0, the Rangers scored their first goal of the game with less than two minutes left in the second period.

The Haliburton team was kept on their toes in the third period when North York scored a power play goal 21 seconds in.

Alex Cunningham scored the Huskies only goal of the third period with North York scoring once more before the final buzzer sounded.

The Huskies will move on to playoff games sitting in third place after winning 36 of 54 games in the Ontario Junior Hockey League south/east division and will face the Toronto Patriots, who are currently in sixth in the south/east division, in the first round of playoff games.

The OJHL playoff schedule is yet to be released.



Lucas Stevenson celebrates his assist after the Huskies second goal is scored by Will Gourgouvelis.



Huskies #44 Zack Morissette celebrates winning the game with his teammates.



Huskies #21 Will Gourgouvelis buries the puck in the Rangers' net.



#75 Patrick Saini speeds down the ice with puck.

Crossword brought to you by

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- CLUES ACROSS

 - 1. Half-conscious states
 - 8. Unnatural
 - 13. Deep regret
 - 14. Rogue
 - 15. Taken without permission
 - 19. An alternative
 - 20. After B
 - 21. Partner to flowed
 - 22. Weekday
 - 23. Body part
 - 24. World's longest river
 - 25. One of the Greats
 - 26. Make clean
 - 30. C. Canada indigenous peoples
 - 31. Japanese seaport
 - 32. Most unclothed
 - 33. Small grouper fish
 - 34. Soluble ribonucleic acid
 - 35. Distinguishing sound
 - 38. French realist painter
 - 39. Popular beer brand
 - 40. Views
 - 44. God depicted as a bull
 - 45. Relieve
 - 46. Residue after burning
 - 47. Habitation
 - 48. Poe's middle name
 - 49. Japanese title
 - 50. TV series installation (abbr.)
 - 51. Beloved country singer
 - 55. Single unit
 - 57. Genuine
 - 58. Develop
 - 59. Traveled through the snow
- 4. Neither
 - 5. Corporate exec (abbr.)
 - 6. Second sight
 - 7. The absence of mental stress
 - 8. Supplemented with difficulty
 - 9. Stop for good
 - 10. College dorm worker
 - 11. Bones
 - 12. Most supernatural
 - 16. Spanish island
 - 17. Unlimited
 - 18. Where golfers begin
 - 22. No charge
 - 25. Print errors
 - 27. Professional drivers
 - 28. Kiss box set
 - 29. Short, fine fibers
 - 30. Administers punishment
 - 32. Czech city
 - 34. Normal or sound powers of mind
 - 36. The academic world
 - 37. Currency
 - 38. Pastoral people of Tanzania or Kenya
 - 40. Cloth spread over a coffin
 - 41. Grouped together
 - 42. On land
 - 43. Glistened
 - 45. A type of extension
 - 48. One who assists
 - 51. College sports conference
 - 52. Zero
 - 53. Midway between northeast and east
 - 54. Type of screen
 - 56. The 13th letter of the Greek alphabet

- CLUES DOWN
- 1. Clues
 - 2. Do again
 - 3. Current unit

Answers on page 12



Jacob Dobson, Haliburton Highlands Secondary School alumnus, led his team to victory at the Swiss Junior Cup in Bern, Switzerland. /Submitted

Team Dobson wins gold at Swiss Junior Cup

VIVIAN COLLINGS
Editor

Jacob Dobson, HHSS alumnus, and skip for U20 men's curling team, Team Dobson, recently represented Canada and slid into first out of 15 teams in the Swiss Junior Cup in Bern, Switzerland from Feb. 24 to 26.

The team of four received the opportunity to play after securing the title of Canadian Junior Cup champions back in December.

With three pools of five leading to a playoff bracket, they won three of four games to move on to win their quarter final and semi final games before coming first in the final against Swiss Team Riggerberg.

"We had a strong start to the game picking up three points in the second end as well as two points in the fourth. Riggerberg fought back, but we were able to maintain control finishing the game with a score 6-5," Dobson said.

He said he was pleased with his team's performance during their first cup in a

different country.

"I think the team had a great performance playing in the cup. All the teams there were really good, and it was clear that wearing the maple leaf on our backs is an honour," he said. "We learned a lot about traveling and competing, dealing with the time change, and jet lag being the main skills. We hope to have more opportunities to travel and put on the team Canada jacket and now we'll have this experience to draw on for next time."

In addition to spending time at the rink, members of the Canadian teams were able to explore Switzerland.

"The curling was definitely one of the highlights, but we also had some time to be tourists. Some of our adventures that stood out most to me were climbing mountains in Glarus and enjoying some of the traditional Swiss food," Dobson said.

Next, Team Dobson will be competing in Ottawa at the Ontario U20 Provincial Championships from Mar. 8 to 12, and Dobson will be competing in the Canadian College Championships in Sudbury with Humber College from Mar. 15 to 19.



Team Dobson came first out of 15 teams at the Swiss Junior Cup.

**Women's
bonspiel
takes the
ice**

The annual Highland Lassie Ladies Bonspiel took place at the Haliburton Curling Club on Saturday, Mar 4. The event hosted 14 teams and 56 curlers from Haliburton, Milton, Port Perry, and Toronto. A raffle display of prizes was donated by local businesses and curlers. /TIM YANO Special to the Echo



Haliburton Curling Club's Team Stephen sweeps in front of the rock during the Highland Lassie Ladies Bonspiel.

A member of Haliburton Curling Club's Team Hillaby throws a rock during the Highland Lassie Ladies Bonspiel.



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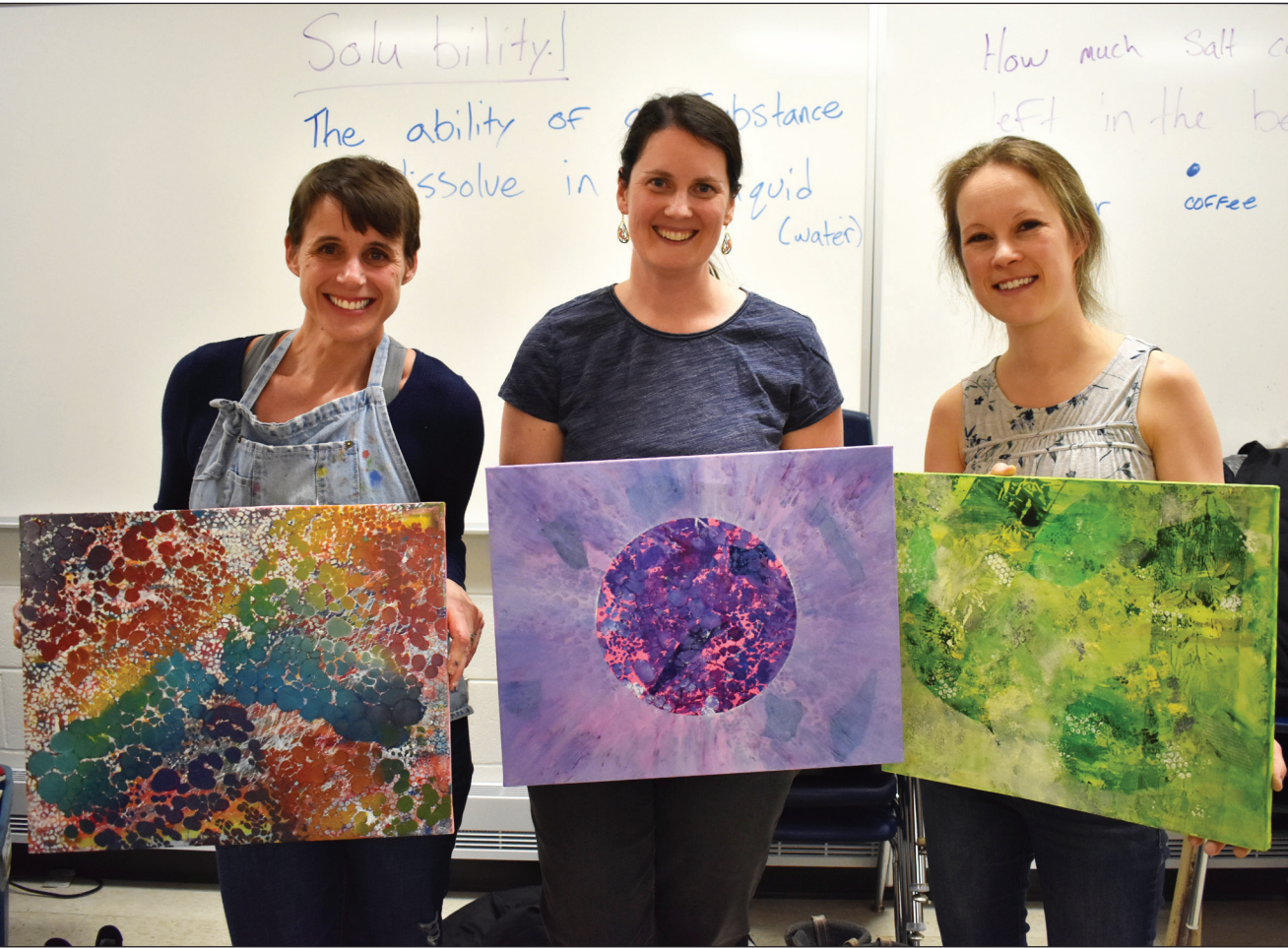
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Brushing up on French culture

Friends Brandon Jarvis, from left, Stephanie Ward, and Sharon Wilson hold up their paintings at the end of the Paint Night Art Workshop fundraiser for J.D. Hodgson Elementary School the Grade 7 and 8 students’ end-of-year trip to Montreal. The workshop was held on Thursday, Mar. 2 at JDHES for 15 participants to be led through a painting demonstration by HHSS art teacher Karen Gervais. The trip is for 104 students to experience culture in Montreal. They will visit the Biodome, art galleries, and the city’s notable architecture along with experiencing rock climbing, a cruise along the St. Lawrence River, ordering meals in French, and more. “The students are all so excited. Getting them out into French culture, showing them there is a bigger world and allowing them to build stronger relationships with each other is so important,” said JDHES French immersion teacher Marina Thomazo. If you’re interested in supporting the Grade 7 and 8 trip, contact Nancy Walker at JDHES by phone 705-457-2922 or email nancy.walker@tidsb.on.ca. /VIVIAN COLLINGS Staff



Mary Ramsden adds pattern to her painting using paint on a piece of bubble wrap.



Notice of Fee By-Law Amendments

Dysart et al Council, at their March 28, 2023 meeting, will be considering changes to By-Law 2022-64, being a by-law to impose fees and charges. This amendment will reflect 2023 increases to Waste Management and Parks and Recreation fees.

Further information on these fee changes will be available on <https://www.dysartetel.ca/>.

Mallory Bishop, Municipal Clerk



Amy Klose, Erin Smith, and Eva Griffith went with a floral theme for their paintings.

CROSSWORD ANSWERS

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The paint night fundraiser held at JDHES was an exercise in building up textures and layers on a canvas.



SIRCH gears up for next Repair Cafe

Above, Rick Elliot, Repair Cafe volunteer, smiles after fixing a coffee bean grinder. Right, Repair Cafe volunteer Doug Norris works on fixing the lamp of a Repair Cafe attendee during the first one of the year held at SIRCH Bistro on Sunday, Feb. 12. The next Repair Cafe will be held at the Minden Community Centre on Saturday, Mar. 25. /Submitted by SIRCH Community Services



Cheering on local businesses and athletes

community news

west guilford

Eleanor Cooper
754-2278

Thanks to Anna Lowes of West Guilford who, with Claudette Pitre and Amanda Manary, are expanding Castle Antiques eating appeal to embrace Mexican experience into their menu. Already the antique area is in the care of Ray

Nicks of Eagle Lake Road, so the joint business advertises itself well. Haliburton Huskies continue the OJHL fight to place well on March 4's final game against the North York Rangers. Unfortunate that Jack Sandiland has suffered a broken leg, but we all cheer for our team as they finish this series. Erin Nicholls and Brianna Elder are cheering on their son, Owen's curling team Straton as they are hosted in Summerside, Prince Edward island for Ontario. Team Straton is located out of London Ontario. Another chance to cheer for local sports talent.



NOTICE OF COMPLETE APPLICATION AND NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING PROPOSED ZONING BY-LAW AMENDMENT TO ZONING BY-LAW 2005-120 OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF DYSART ET AL

- DATE: TUESDAY, MARCH 28TH, 2023
- TIME: 9:05 am
- LOCATION: TAKE NOTICE THAT THE PUBLIC MEETING FOR ZONING BY-LAW AMENDMENT WILL TAKE PLACE AS AN ELECTRONIC PUBLIC MEETING ONLY

Application:
Lands of Warren. (File No. D14-ZB-2022-007)

- Purpose and Effect: The application will rezone the lands from Waterfront Residential Type 4L (WR4L) zone to Waterfront Residential 6L-XX (WR6L-XX) exception zone and Environmental Protection (EP) zone in order to:
 - Permit a reduced minimum water setback for an accessory structure (shed) on the retained lot.
 - Permit an accessory structure (shed) prior to the main use being established on the retained lot.
 - Recognize the minimum lot frontage of the subject property.
 - Implement environmental protection zone on the subject property.
- Location: Civic Address 1208 Reg's Trail, legally known as Lot 8 Concession 7, In the Geographic Township of Dudley, Municipality of Dysart et al.
- Proposed Zoning is a condition of a concurrent severance application (File No. H-027-22) under the Planning Act for the proposed severed and retained lots.

There will not be an in-person meeting; this meeting will be conducted in an electronic format only.

For more information about electronic meetings and public participation in an electronic meeting, contact the Municipal Clerk at mbishop@dysartetal.ca.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: about this application, including a copy of the draft by-law, is available by contacting Kris Orsan, Manager at korsan@dysartetal.ca.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THIS MATTER INCLUDING INFORMATION ABOUT APPEAL RIGHTS: Contact the Planning and Land Information Department during regular office hours, Monday to Friday.

Dated at the Township of Dysart, this 7th day of March, 2023.

Kris Orsan, CPT, Manager, Planning and Land Information
Municipality of Dysart et al.
135 Maple Avenue, Haliburton, Ontario K0M 1S0
Phone: 705-457-1740 ext. 626
E-mail: korsan@dysartetal.ca

Textile Recycling

Along with donating gently used clothing to the Haliburton 4Cs Lily Ann Thrift Store and the SIRCH Community Services' Thrift Warehouse, residents of Dysart can drop off textiles for recycling at Dysart's five waste disposal sites during regular operating hours.

Place textiles in clear bags to help keep materials dry.

☒ Items you wear "head to foot" (including undergarments)

Clothes (including undergarments and socks), Hats, Scarves, Ties, Jackets, Coats, Belts, Shoes (including single shoes), Jewelry, Purses, Backpacks



☒ Bedding, Blankets, Curtains, Fabric, Pillows, Sleeping Bags, Towels



☒ While textiles should be clean, our textile recycling program will also accept torn, worn out, stained or scrap textiles.



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SIRCH Community Services is a charitable organization in Haliburton County with a focus on poverty reduction, food security and community connection. Known for innovation and the ability to pivot, SIRCH has a variety of programs and social enterprises that contribute to community health.

We are looking for a new board member to join our team.
Here's what the current board members have to say:

"As someone who genuinely believes in empowering others to take care of themselves, I joined the SIRCH board in order to do just that. Serving this organisation, which works relentlessly to better the social and economic reality of our community, is a privilege." *(Petra Hamann)*

"I am blessed to be a part of an organization that cares so deeply about the needs of our community and 'SIRCHes' for ways to alleviate hunger and unemployment, alternatives for waste management, and so much more." *(Barb Fawcett)*

"After retiring, I volunteered with SIRCH in the School's Cool, CAPC/CPNP and Community Kitchen programs. When I saw the opportunity to become a SIRCH Board member, I knew I was ready to become more involved in all that SIRCH does. I now have a greater understanding of how SIRCH continually pivots to meet the needs of our community and I am grateful that I have a voice in helping so many." *(Lynn McGillivray)*

"People helping people is the hallmark of a compassionate and caring community. As a member of the Board of Directors, I feel privileged to be a part of an organization which lives out this mandate through creating resilience, reducing poverty, encouraging connection." *(Marc Beisheim)*

Join our Board team. For more information contact
Barbara Fawcett fawcett.barbara@gmail.com or **Gena Robertson** at info@sirch.on.ca
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Camp Timberlane is a co-ed residential summer camp for campers aged 6 – 16 and is looking to hire candidates to join our onsite Housekeeping / Laundry team and our Grounds Keeping and Maintenance. For more information about the camp, visit us at www.Camptimberlane.ca

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Candidates will be cross-trained and or assigned to areas based on existing skills and previous work experience. Candidates must enjoy working outside. A typical work week is 40 hours with potential for overtime. Willing to take required government safety certifications such as WHMIS. Able to support a positive team environment.
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In the still of the night.
I can visualize you in heaven
talking to Dad, Jr., and
Geraldine.
I can visualize you spreading
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and flying around heaven
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getting tired. I can visualize
you waiting
for the day we will meet
again.
Miss you. See you soon.
(John 11:35)

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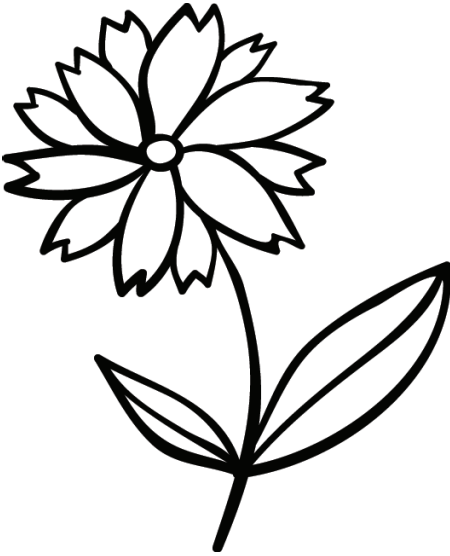
March 1, 2023

Peacefully at her residence on Wednesday morning, March 1, 2023, in her 63rd year. Beloved wife of Peter Collins. Loving mother of Sarah (Jeff) and John (Audrey). Fondly remembered by her grandchildren Emma, Erin, Sophia, Chloe, and Brayden. Dear sister of Helene and Raymond. Also lovingly remembered by her nieces and nephews. Dianne worked as a Dietician Aide for many years with Haliburton Highlands Health Services. She helped so many in our Community and will be missed.

Private Family Visitation & Celebration Of Life

A private Family Visitation & Celebration of Dianne's life will take place at a later date. As an expression of sympathy, donations to the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation would be appreciated by the family. Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the **HALIBURTON COMMUNITY FUNERAL HOME** 13523 Hwy. #118, Haliburton, Ontario (705) 457-9209.

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Lord, please pick one for me
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and tell her it's from me
Tell her I love her, and when
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upon her cheek and hold her for a while.
Remembering her is easy, I do it every day,
but there's an ache in my heart
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Love, Mom

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THE HALIBURTON COUNTY ECHO

Wednesday, March 28, 1990

SECTION 2

Celebrating history with song:

125 years of 'worship and witness' at St. George's Anglican Church remembered with music

by MARTHA PERKINS

Editor

IN PAYING HOMAGE to the past, St. George's Anglican Church firmly cemented its place in Haliburton's present and future.

Sunday night's "Musical Celebration" of St. George's 125 years in Haliburton demonstrated why the church has been such an integral part of a village in the making. A church is more than just a building, and the people associated with St. George's showed yet again, by their faith and talents, that 125 more years of "worship and witness" are welcome by the community.

"Music is a fair and glorious gift of God," and thus it was appropriate to use this gift to herald the church's anniversary, said organist and choir director Bill Gliddon, who organized the evening. It began by Earl Cooper piping in the choir and Rev. John Phillips.

For those of the audience of approximately 300 who hadn't been on Leo Dobrzynski's Heritage Walks, Mr. Gliddon first recounted the history of St. George's.

In the beginning

In the autumn of 1864, when local men began working on the little log church, the community was in its infancy. Most early settlers were British, so it seemed apropos to name the Church of England St. George's, in honour of England's patron saint.

"Even in this remote corner of Ontario, the flag, law and order, and the monarchy were held in deepest respect," said Mr. Gliddon. So when the choir opened with a pomp-and-circumstance, three-verse version of God Save the Queen, "think not only of our present gracious sovereign, but also to the defender of the faith, supreme monarch of the British Empire, Queen Victoria," who was in the throne when Haliburton's first church was built.

The church was supposed to be dedicated Christmas of 1864, but severe December storms delayed Rev. Richard Sanders' arrival. Bishop John Strachan didn't know that with the bad weather and drifting snow, Rev. Sanders would need a couple of weeks to reach his destination. Finally, on "a cold and stormy New Year's day in 1865", 42 worshippers heralded the opening of the church with him.

Organist at the time was Dr. Jonathan Penke, who knew only two tunes on his accordion-cum-organ. Words to other hymns had to be molded to the tunes of *Men of Harlech* and *Evening Hymn*, which the choir sang to perfection.

By 1870, the congregation had outgrown its tiny cabin and Rev. G.C. Mackenzie, rector, oversaw the construction of a larger church. "He was so loved and respected, that every family in Haliburton was represented at his departure" a few years later, said Mr. Gliddon.



Sonny Cook presents a picture to Rev. John Phillips



Everyone raises the roof with Onward Christian Soldiers



Ann Varty fiddles (not) on the roof

It took Sonny Cook a year to realize that the Rev. Mackenzie carved on the pulpit was the same Rev. Mackenzie, her great-grandfather.

On Saturday, the choir member made a presentation to the priest who has overseen the latest addition to the church, Rev. Phillips. She explained that her great-grandmother's father, Bishop Boomer, sent them up here. After growing up in Jamaica, the climate change was difficult on Great-grandmother Mackenzie, who coped admirably.

"They came up here in a sleigh from Port Hope, with two children and wrapped up in blankets," said Ms. Cook.

Her gift, from the remaining grandchildren, was a photograph of Rev. Mackenzie. "My great-grandmother said 'Although it's not flattering, it's a good likeness.'"

The spirit of children

Churches must always renew themselves, and one way is through the children. The next performance was by the Friendship Club, an interdenominational

group of youngsters which meets weekly at St. George's. As part of the presentation, Jennie-Nicole Phillips sang a solo, demonstrating she might one day steal a little of her father's musical limelight.

Less exuberant but just as lovely were Barb Fawcett and Glenda Burk's renderings of *I Look to My Shepherd* and *Hymn Medley*, "intimate responses to Christian ways and timeless truths," Mrs. Fawcett said.

The choir renewed its fine reputation with the next three songs: *More Love*, *In My Weakness*, *Shout For Joy*. Mr. Gliddon took full advantage of the choir's range of voices to bring out in them hymns of pure harmony.

It's surprising the Legion is still firmly rooted in the ground after the entire audience's rousing verses of *Onward Christian Soldiers*. There was enough zeal to march the auditorium to Wilberforce.

All turned quiet and restful when Rev. Phillips, accompanied by Mr. Gliddon, provided his celebration in song. His first, a version of Psalm 51, was a heartfelt plea to "have mercy on me, oh God, according to thy steadfast love."

If Rev. Phillips made the audience reflective, then Mr. Gliddon and Wayne Cooper made people laugh inside. Their joyful, playful duet of Three Waltzes by Johannes Brahms, and then Brahms' Hungarian Dance No. 18 were displays of true mastery of the piano. No Concert Series performer using the grand piano could have outshone these two, who added to their list of accomplishments with *Worlds Apart*, a touching song from the musical, *Huckleberry Finn*.

This light-hearted tone was maintained by the choir, who closed with *Gaelic Rhapsody* and a medley from *Fiddler on the Roof*. Violinist Ann Varty joined them in the latter collection of favourite songs, although many audience members wished they could have heard more of her talents.

With so much goodwill and so many good feelings present in the auditorium, by the time it came for everyone to sing *Let There Be Peace On Earth*, this too was from the heart. And a perfect challenge for St. George's in the next 125 years.

'Music is a fair and glorious gift of God,' says Bill Gliddon



Chris Postlethwaite, Les Schell, Rosemary Mallott and Jim Burk of the choir



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